(vi) The benefit of Section 80C of the Income Tax Act, 1961 has been extended to the investments made under 5-Year Post Office Time Deposits Account and Senior Citizens Savings Scheme, with effect from 01.04.2007.

(vii) Measures are also taken to promote and popularize these schemes through print and electronic media as well as holding seminars and meetings, providing training to the various agencies involved in mobilizing collection in Small Savings Schemes etc.

(viii) A website of the National Savings Institute under Government of India, Ministry of Finance has also been launched to facilitate interface with the public through wider dissemination of information on small savings and on-line registration and settlement of investor's grievances. The website address is nsiindia.gov.in.

Bifurcation of BSNL

1549. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is proposing to bifurcate BSNL to form another company;

(b) if so, the proposals thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) in what manner it will affect the executive and non-executive employees; and

(e) whether the recognized union/s have been consulted in this matter and if so, what is their opinion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Sir, there is no proposal to bifurcate BSNL as on date.

(b) to (e) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

SIM on fake identity

1550. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a research by Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has revealed that about one in six SIMs is procured on the basis of fake IDs;

(b) whether DoT has slapped Rs. 58 crores in penalties on various operators who issued SIMs on fake identity;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that verification of 35 lakh customer application forms in the last two years revealed as accuracy rate for top six telecom operators between 60 per cent and 89 per cent;

(e) whether some operators have raised the issue of different parameters followed by TRAI and DoT and possibility of variations; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Based on the monthly subscriber verification audit conducted by Telecom Enforcement & Resource Monitoring Cells of Department of Telecommunications, the average percentage of subscriber verification failure detected for the period from April 2007 to March 2009 is 14.43% with respect to 13 telecom access service providers.

(b) and (c) Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has imposed penalty of Rs. 5034.81 lakh on the various telecom access service providers for unverified subscribers detected based on the monthly audit by Telecom Enforcement & Resource Monitoring Cells of DoT for the period from April 2007 to March 2009.

(d) The average accuracy rate of correct subscriber verification of six top market share holding telecom access service providers in mobile service for the period from April 2007 to March 2009 varies from 74.64% to 92.07%.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise in view of the (e) above.

Allotment of 2G Spectrum

1551. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that TRAI's have raised objections against dubious first-come-first-served basis allotment of 2G spectrum;

(b) if so, the details of TRAI's objections;

(c) whether 2G spectrum granted on the above basis have resulted into loss of revenue to public exchequer; and

(d) if so, the details of estimated loss on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) No Sir, as per the guidelines for issue of license for basic services dated 25.01.2001, which clearly specify that the spectrum for basic services shall be allotted to any basic service operator including the existing ones on first come first served basis and same principle of allotment of spectrum on first come first served basis is followed for all spectrum allotments.

(c) and (d) Not applicable in view of (a) and (b) above.